

# Morialta Worship Sunday June 7 Trinity Sunday

Prepared by: Colin Cargill, Rev Bob Hutchinson.

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Welcome to our time of worship on this Trinity Sunday. Warm greetings to you where ever you may be – at home, with family, alone or with friends.

## **Call to worship**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Trinity is not a definition of God but a cry of faith  
from the heart of the Christian experience.  
A cry of trust and commitment, a cry of love and adoration

We light the candle to remind us that the light of Christ goes with us. We open the Bible in which we find the words used to convey our understandings of God. And we pour the water to remind us of our own baptism with the Spirit of life.

## **Acknowledgement of Land**

Wherever we gather this morning we give thanks.  
Here at Morialta we give thanks for the Kurna People.  
We acknowledge the commitment their ancestors made, across the generations, to nurturing this Land.  
And we acknowledge their elders past, present and emerging as we walk together today and into the future.

## **Prayer**

Most wonderful God, forever beyond our grasp yet by love always within our reach we approach you with confidence.

Most wonderful Christ, forever ahead of us in wisdom and love yet by love always beside us, we approach you with eagerness.

Most wonderful Spirit, forever larger than the whole universe yet by love living in our hearts, we approach you with delight and joy.

Please enable our worship to rise far higher than our intellect and let our love go much deeper than our feelings.

To your praise and glory: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God to be ever loved, adored and served! Amen!  
(Bruce Prewer)

## **Song: TIS 132 Holy Holy holy**

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty,  
early in the morning to you our praise shall be;

holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore you,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before you,  
God everlasting through eternity.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide you,  
though the sinful human eye your glory may not see,  
you alone are holy, there is none beside you  
perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty,  
all your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea;  
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

### **Reading      Psalm 8**

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

<sup>3</sup> When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;

<sup>4</sup> what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals<sup>[a]</sup> that you care for them?

<sup>5</sup> Yet you have made them a little lower than God,<sup>[b]</sup>  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup> You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,

<sup>7</sup> all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup> the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup> O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### **Prayers**

Creator - the Stars and the Sun and the Moon and all that are below them reveal the wonder and the greatness of creation's power and majesty. We pray that we might always live in a Spirit of thankfulness and give honour and praise to the glory of your wondrous creation. May we never lose the sense of awe as we walk in a world made for all life – in a creation where everything is connected in a web of life that inspires within us, as your servants, the need to joyfully point to you as the source of all that is good.... Lord, hear our prayer.

Jesus, you who came to us as the Son of God - who took on flesh, and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, and set us free - we thank you. We thank you for coming among us and revealing to us the fullness of God's love for us. May we open ourselves to accept your love and follow you in the path you set before us. May we never forget the cost of that love nor how freely it was poured out upon us - and may we, as your brothers and sisters, live out and teach all that you have commanded us to live out and teach... Lord, hear our prayer.

Spirit, you who are the breath of God within us and the wind of God that blows among us - you who are our daily strength and the source of wisdom for the living of our days - we thank you. We thank you for the life you give - for the message that you speak - for the comfort you give - and the fruit that you grow in our lives as we hear and accept your testimony to the Father and to the Son. May we never forget why you have been poured out upon us. Bless us and the whole creation as we give thanks for the gifts that we have received, so that we can continue in our life together, pursuing the mission you call us to complete in Christ's name.... Lord hear our prayer...

### **A reflection on Trinity**

**Sweetest mystery, surest certainty**

**There's a family in the heavens with a place for me**

**Here and now we'll see and through eternity**

**We are people who are cradled in the Trinity**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord is the God who raises us**

**To this family of love**

**Praise the Father who is making all things new**

**By the Spirit and the Son here in grace and truth**

**There is room for you, there is a life that's full**

**There is love here for the world not just for a few**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord is the God who raises us**

**To this family of love**

### **Readings**

**Genesis 1** In the beginning when God created<sup>[a]</sup> the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God<sup>[b]</sup> swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.<sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.<sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.<sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so.<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make humankind<sup>[c]</sup> in our image, according to our likeness; <sup>27</sup> So God created humankind<sup>[e]</sup> in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

### **Matthew 28:16-20**

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority

in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”<sup>[d]</sup>

### **Reflection/word**

Steve Holmes, United Methodist pastor in Massachusetts, writes a daily reflection in, [unfoldinglight.net](http://unfoldinglight.net), wrote this week

How do you live through the siege? Whether it is climate change, police brutality, a viral pandemic or 400 (or 200 in Australia) years of white supremacy, how do you live faithfully when there is sickness and evil around you?

First, examine yourself. Keep paying attention. Before you judge others test yourself. The only person you can control is you, so do so. What are your basic values? Do you apply them to yourself and others equally? Be light.

Serve each other. Let every action be for the sake of the wholeness of all, not merely your own advantage. Let compassion guide you. Love.

Bear witness. Be transparent. Do not hide your sorrow or your rage. They are part of your power to care. Don't silence yourself if you are grieving while others are happy, or joyful when others despair. Honor your heart. Don't whine; don't blame or judge. But give your broken heart freedom to speak its truth, to sing its song.

Protect the vulnerable. As the Bible says, “care for the widows and orphans:” for those most at risk, marginalized, or disenfranchised. We are all part of one whole; you are not whole unless your neighbor is.

Disrupt. Interrupt your own participation systems that perpetuate harm or injustice. Whether you would transmit racism, plastic waste or a coronavirus, seek ways to stop the spread. Break the cycle. Practice a new way of living. Do justice.

Hope. Hope is not wishful thinking but trust in what is unseen. God's grace is at work in ways we can't know. Notice the signs, small and great. Stay in touch with others. Practice gratitude. Seek healing. Set your life in the hands of the *Gentle One* who heals, who even now is creating life.

You can't save the world, but you can bless it. Do justice; love mercy; walk humbly with God. Trust God, and work like hell. You are not alone.

We can talk today about the trinity and come away perhaps even more uncertain or confused about what that means. We might think of the egg as having three parts, yet one egg, or water ice and steam, father son spirit, creator redeemer energizer or even three stumps to make up the wicket in cricket.

But not this year, not Trinity Sunday 2020. For this year the events past current and future don't need Trinitarian explanations or definitions. It needs a Trinitarian experience.

Our world has burned, and is burning, our world is sick and it is recovering, our world is gripped by domestic violence in the communities and cities of the USA and in the homes of Adelaide. Our communities are in the grip of protests and actions relating to black deaths in custody

The only Trinitarian formula we need to hear and know today, is LOVE! L. O. V. E. The divine intention – LOVE!

Richard Rohr in his book, *The Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation* talks about a **Relational Universe** and says: “*If a rational Creator started this whole thing, then there has to be a “DNA connection,” as it were, between the One who creates and what is created*”.

We know through microscopes and telescopes that the pattern of the neutrons, protons, and electrons in atoms is similar to the pattern of planets, stars, and galaxies: both are in orbit around one another, and all appears to be in relationship to everything else.

So a question might be, what might this relational universe mean for us? Genesis describes the creative plan, the divine intention: where God said: Let *us* create in *our* own image, in the likeness of *ourselves*” (Genesis 1:26). which seems to speak of a Divine Council that confers with itself.

Rohr then presents us with this: “*The energy in the universe is not in the planets, nor in the atomic particles, but very surprisingly in the **relationship** between them. It’s not in the cells of organisms but in the way the cells feed and give feedback to one another through semi-permeable membranes*”.

The energy is not in any definition or in the names of the three persons of the Trinity, as much as in **the relationship between the Three!** This is where all the power for infinite renewal is at work: The loving relationship between them. The infinite love between them. The dance itself.

*The divine flow either flows both in and out, or it is not flowing at all.* The Law of Flow is simple, as Jesus states “Happy are the merciful; they shall have mercy shown to them” (Matthew 5:7). Or as we say - “What goes around comes around.” We are conduits. We are conduits of love, LOVE!

### **And so what is LOVE/ Trinitarian LOVE?**

**God is Love.**

*Love is not an object but an action, a process.*

*God is love and the loving of love, and the receiving of love.*

*God is an unfolding relationship.*

*So God is one, and yet must also be more than one.*

*God is a loving parent and a begotten child and the love that proceeds from them, all three.*

*God is community. God is a family.*

*The Holy Trinity live in loving attentiveness to each other but it is not a closed circle. They open out to us.*

*You are invited to come to the table, to share in that love, to be part of God’s nature, God’s being, God’s loving.*

*This is what it means to be part of the Body of Christ.*

*All people are our sisters and brothers, all living beings, all Creation: though we are many there is only One of us.*

*Join the communion of the One Who Is Many.*

*Come into the tender love of the Mother who births us, the Lover who desires us, and the love*

*begotten in us.*

*Find your being in the Holy One in whom we are One.*

*You are the fourth person of the Holy Trinity.*

Come. [www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)

So this Trinity Sunday, how do we live through 'the siege', all that is going on, gone on and will come? What is the Trinitarian flow, this dance?, the divine relationship?, if it is not LOVE!

and in that divine love-dance/relationship - we are the fourth aspect of the Trinity – made in the image or likeness of God – in and through LOVE

And in the words of St Paul in 1 Corth 13- three things (Trinitarian) three things remain, faith hope and love – and the greatest of these is love

Self-giving love – in a time of hoarding and looting

Compassionate love- in a time of violence and pain

Creative love – that brings new and resurrected life out of and within the old and the present

That love, and blessing, dance and flow – out- and in- and out

May- it –be- so!

**Song: God of Creation** (tune : morning has broken)

God of Creation/Gentle life-giver  
Present at birth, and/all through our days  
Author of sunrise/Song in the night sky  
Here in this place, we/offer our praise

Jesus, Companion/teacher and healer  
friend of the grieving,/suffering, the poor  
Stand with your people/whisper among us  
promise of mercy/goodness for all

Spirit of Comfort/blow through Creation  
stir up new life, breathe/peace through our world  
Healer of hearts, and/hope for tomorrow  
weave all our sorrows/into new dawn

Here we give thanks for/life in its fullness  
blessings received/your gifts to us all  
Make us a people/filled with compassion  
selflessly giving/serving your world

**Prayers for the offering of our gifts and response to the Gospel**

Gracious God, Bless the offerings and donations that have been given via Egive and Direct Debit or set aside to provide opportunities for ministry of care and love within our community and beyond. Send your Spirit on all who work to bring the good news of peace, reconciliation and love In the name of our Lord Jesus.

**Prayers for our world and all creation**

We are a world that is in need of love and compassion. When powers struggle for dominance, and war – oppression and abuse result; When groups of people oppose one another because of ideology, religion or

culture; when people flee their home because of violence. We need to turn to the vision of God painted by the words of the Prophets – a vision that is bigger than ourselves, and broader than our personal interests.

*In silent prayer, call to mind a specific area of conflict in the world.*

When people are disregarded and devalued because of poverty, geography or disease; When compassion and justice are withheld from some because of sexuality, race or gender; We need to reflect on the words of Jesus who was more compassionate than we are, who includes even those we would exclude.

*In silent prayer call to mind a specific people or place of suffering in the world.*

When resources are mismanaged and abused, and the world and its creatures are destroyed; When we lack motivation and creativity to address the challenges that we face; We need a Spirit who is more powerful and more creative than we could ever be.

*Let us call to mind specific challenges and issues that we struggle with in the world.*

Creator God, Jesus our mentor, Empowering Spirit, we offer these prayers because we need your vision so desperately. Captivate us, call us and fill us, that we may be carriers of your vision to this world that you love so dearly. Amen.

#### **Song TIS 179 praise with...**

Praise with joy the world's Creator,  
God of justice, love and peace,  
source and end of human knowledge,  
force of greatness without cease.  
Celebrate the Maker's glory,  
power to rescue and release.  
Praise the Son who feeds the hungry,  
frees the captive, finds the lost,  
heals the sick, upsets religion,  
fearless both of fate and cost.  
Celebrate Christ's constant presence  
Friend and Stranger, Guest and Host.

Praise the Spirit sent among us,  
liberating truth from pride,  
forging bonds where race or gender,  
age or nation dare divide.  
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure  
foolishness none dare deride.

Praise the Maker, Son and Spirit,  
one God in community,  
calling Christians to embody  
oneness and diversity.  
Thus the world shall yet believe, when  
shown Christ's vibrant unity.

#### **A blessing from the writings of St Paul in 2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

<sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, good-bye until we meet again. Put things in order, respond to my encouragement, be in harmony with each other, and live in peace—and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup> Say hello to each other with a text, email, phone call or a holy elbow tap. All of God's people say hello to you. <sup>13</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.